

Media Release

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Garrett Wayne Massey, President of Eyesore Inc., Is Georgia's 2010 Young Entrepreneur of the Year

--Griffin-based company born in a basement four years ago--

Garrett Massey, President and founder of Eyesore Inc., has been selected the 2010 Young Entrepreneur of the Year for Georgia and the Southeast Region by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Based in Griffin, Georgia, Massey, 25, started his company four years ago in his basement. Today, his growing company has six employees and a customer base that includes UnitedHealthCare and the U.S. Military.

Massey will receive his SBA awards from Terri Denison, SBA Georgia District Director, at an Atlanta luncheon on May 5 hosted by the Georgia Lenders Quality Circle. He was nominated for the statewide SBA award by the Clayton State University Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

Massey started Eyesore Inc., as a custom, full service website development company. In recent years, the company has expanded to offer services such as web application development, search engine marketing and rural contracting for large firms. His business has grown from revenues of \$31,877 in 2007 to \$193,000 last year.

Massey decided to locate his business in the downtown area of Griffin where he had grown up. While other businesses in the area were closing their doors, Eyesore Inc. had to relocate twice and hire new employees to meet demand. Because of his success, Eyesore Inc. was featured in Georgia Trend Magazine's annual Small Business Guide.

After taking part in the Maximum Marketing course offered by the Clayton State SBDC, Massey began actively working with the SBDC in other areas. He participated in the SBDC's "FastTrac" program last year and later used his firm to create a website for the Maximum Series courses. In addition, Massey has taught an extensive three-hour course several times for the SBDC on search engine marketing (SEM).

While running Eyesore Inc., Massey has taught courses at Griffin Technical College since 2008 as an adjunct instructor.

Massey graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2006 with a Bachelor's in Computer Science. While working for Morris Technology and later Georgia Southern, he began freelancing web development projects. In February 2007, Massey incorporated Eyesore Inc., and later moved back to his hometown of Griffin.

Massey is the son of Ronnie and June Massey. Growing up, he was active with the Boy Scouts of America and attained Eagle rank at age 13. He excelled in academics, being homeschooled by his mother and working with Bob Jones University to obtain his high school diploma. After graduating, he attended Gordon College in Barnesville before transferring to Georgia Southern University in Statesboro.

Massey is an active member of the First Baptist Church of Griffin and a committee chairman for the Kiwanis Club of Griffin.

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